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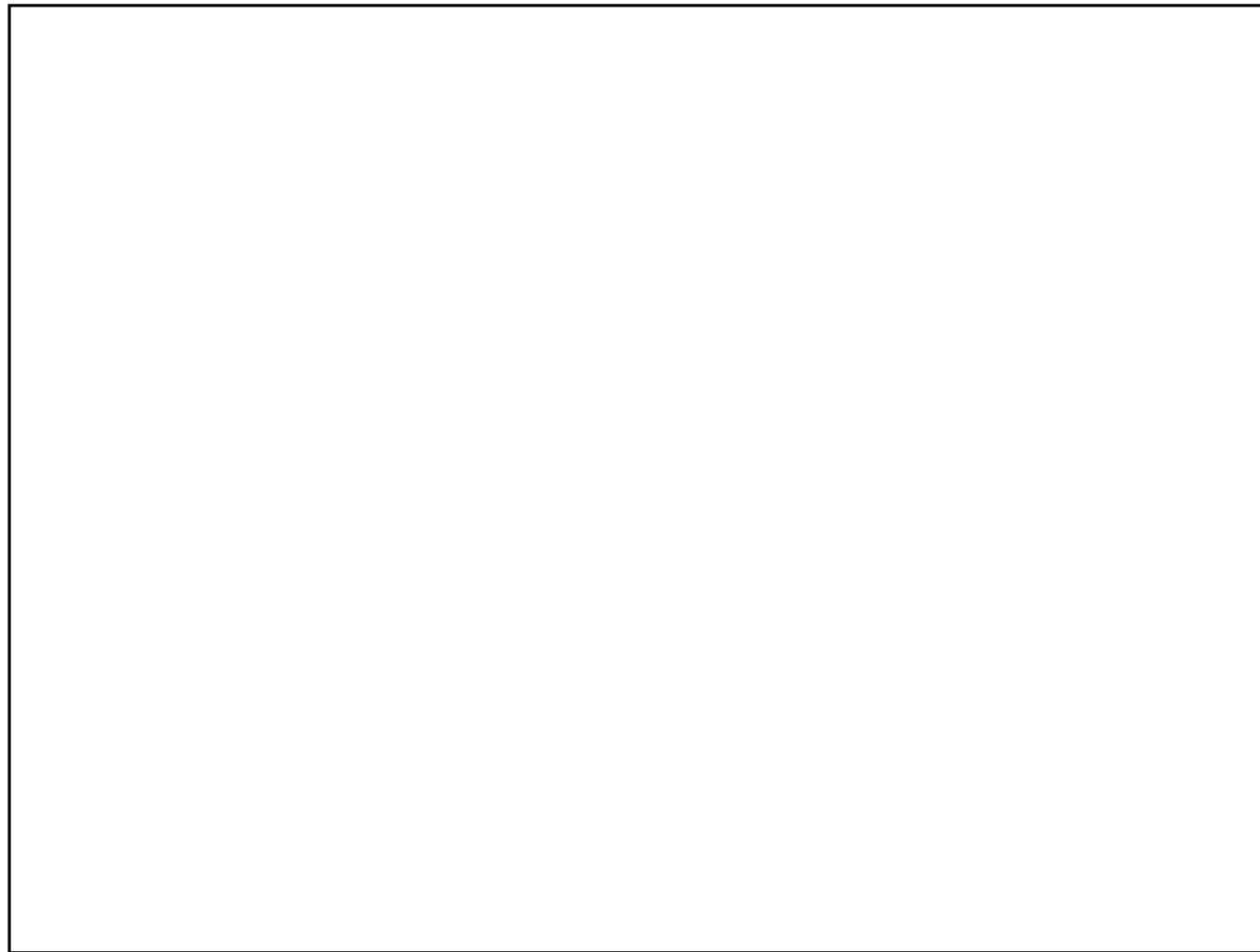
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UN: Waldheim will refuse PRG request for observer
status

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NOTES

UN: SECRETARY-GENERAL KURT WALDHEIM HAS ASSURED US OFFICIALS THAT HE WILL REFUSE THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT'S (PRG) REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS AT THE UN IN NEW YORK. DESPITE THE PRG'S RECENT APPOINTMENT OF A UN REPRESENTATIVE, WALDHEIM SAID THAT THE PRG CANNOT BE GRANTED OBSERVER STATUS BECAUSE IT DOES NOT MEET THE ESTABLISHED CRITERIA. WALDHEIM APPARENTLY STILL HOPES TO ESTABLISH SOME CONTACT THAT MIGHT FACILITATE A UN ROLE IN VIETNAM RECONSTRUCTION, AND HE MAY BE CONSIDERING A PRG LIAISON OFFICE IN GENEVA. ALTHOUGH WALDHEIM MAY PURSUE THIS ALTERNATIVE--THE PRG HAS SAID IT WILL SOON APPOINT A GENEVA REPRESENTATIVE--HE PROBABLY WOULD KEEP ANY SUCH CONTACT INFORMAL AND UNOFFICIAL.

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